

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A runflat tire comprising:

a carcass toroidally extending over a pair of bead portions in which beads are embedded;

a pair of sidewall portions;

a tread portion; and

a reinforcing rubber layer that has a crescent sectional shape and is arranged at an interior surface side of the carcass at least in the pair of sidewall portions,

wherein the carcass includes:

at least one cord layer including:

a continuous cord;

a plurality of radial cord portions radially-arrayed between the bead portions at a given circumferential pitch P ; and

a plurality of circumferential cord portions circumferentially connecting respective inner ends of adjacent radial cord portions in the bead portions,

~~wherein the bead includes a pair of split bead cores, the split bead cores being disposed on both sides of the carcass to sandwich the carcass, and~~

wherein an inner end in the tire's radial direction of the ~~split bead cores~~ outside as viewed from the tire's width direction is so placed that a vertical distance from a tire bead base or its extension is not more than 5 mm-3 mm.

2. (Currently Amended) The runflat tire according to Claim 1,

wherein the carcass comprises at least two cord layers ;

wherein the adjacent cord layers are arranged so that radial cord portions of the adjacent cord layers are circumferentially spaced with each other by a distance L obtained when the circumferential pitch P is divided by the number of cord layers;

wherein the circumferential cord portions of different cord layers are substantially contacted with each other to form an overlap portion in the bead portions;

wherein circumferential cord portions locate below a lower end of the ~~split~~ bead cores as viewed from the tire's radial direction.

3. (Currently Amended) The runflat tire according to Claim 2, wherein the ~~split~~ bead core constituting the bead is formed by helically winding a bead wire.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Previously Presented) The runflat tire according to Claim 2, wherein the carcass comprises three cord layers .

6. (Previously Presented) The runflat tire according to Claim 5, wherein the overlap portion has a triple contact portion at which all of the circumferential cord portions of the different cord layers are substantially contacted with each other.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ runflat tire according to Claim 1, comprising:
a carcass toroidally extending over a pair of bead portions in which beads are embedded;

a pair of sidewall portions;

a tread portion; and

a reinforcing rubber layer that has a crescent sectional shape and is arranged at an interior surface side of the carcass at least in the pair of sidewall portions,

wherein the carcass includes:

at least one cord layer including:

a continuous cord;

a plurality of radial cord portions radially-arrayed between the bead portions at a given circumferential pitch P; and

a plurality of circumferential cord portions circumferentially connecting respective inner ends of adjacent radial cord portions in the bead portions,
wherein the bead includes a pair of split bead cores, the split bead cores being disposed on both sides of the carcass to sandwich the carcass;

wherein the carcass comprises at least one turn-up cord layer folded around the split bead core locating outside in the tire's width direction from the inner side to the outer side in the tire's width direction; and

wherein a folded end of the turn-up cord layer substantially consists of a plurality of the circumferential cord portions; and

as viewed in a section in the tire's width direction under a condition where the tire is assembled to a standard rim to form a tire/wheel assembly and then a maximum load is applied to the tire with no inner pressure applied thereto, the folded end of the turn-up layer is laid, in the tire's radial direction, outside of a line segment QB which connects an outermost point Q of a rim guard in the tire's width direction and an intersection B of the inner surface of the tire and a line extending outwardly in the tire's radial direction from the outermost point Q at an angle of 60 degrees in relation to a line parallel to the rim radial line.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ runflat tire according to Claim 1, comprising:
a carcass toroidally extending over a pair of bead portions in which beads are embedded;

a pair of sidewall portions;

a tread portion; and

a reinforcing rubber layer that has a crescent sectional shape and is arranged at an interior surface side of the carcass at least in the pair of sidewall portions,

wherein the carcass includes:

at least one cord layer including:

a continuous cord;

a plurality of radial cord portions radially-arrayed between the bead portions at a given circumferential pitch P; and

a plurality of circumferential cord portions circumferentially connecting respective inner ends of adjacent radial cord portions in the bead portions,

~~wherein a stiffener rubber tapered outwardly in the tire's radial direction is further arranged outside the bead in the tire's radial direction;~~

wherein the carcass comprises at least one turn-up cord layer folded around the bead ~~core and the stiffener rubber~~ from an inner side to an outer side in the tire's width direction; and

wherein a folded end of the turn-up cord layer substantially consists of a plurality of the circumferential cord portions; and

as viewed in a section in the tire's width direction under a condition where the tire is assembled to a standard rim to form a tire/wheel assembly and then a maximum load is applied to the tire with no inner pressure applied thereto, the folded end of the turn-up layer is laid, in the tire's radial direction, outside of a line segment QB which connects an outermost point Q of a rim guard in the tire's width direction and an intersection B of the inner surface of the tire and a line extending outwardly in the tire's radial direction from the outermost point Q at an angle of 60 degrees in relation to a line parallel to the rim radial line.

9. (Previously Presented) The runflat tire according to Claim 7, wherein, as viewed in a section in the tire's width direction under a condition where the tire is assembled to a standard rim to form a tire/wheel assembly and then a small inner pressure of 15% of the maximum inner pressure is applied to the tire with no load applied thereto, the folded end of

the turn-up cord layer is laid, in the tire's radial direction, inside of a line segment PA which connects an arc center point P of a flange contour and an intersection A of the inner surface of the tire and a line extending outwardly in the tire's radial direction from the center point P at an angle of 60 degrees in relation to a line parallel to the rim radial line.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Previously Presented) The runflat tire according to Claim 7, wherein, as viewed from the tire's width direction, a sectional area of a stiffener rubber is in a range between 20- 25% of a sectional area of the reinforcing rubber.

12. (Previously Presented) The runflat tire according to Claim 7, wherein a plurality of the circumferential cord portions constituting the folded end of the turn-up cord layer are so arranged that their positions in the tire's radial direction differ with each other.

13. (Previously Presented) The runflat tire according to Claim 7, wherein an overlap portion at which the circumferential cord portions in the different cord layers substantially contact with each other is formed in the bead portion.

14. (Previously Presented) A method of building the tire according Claim 7, comprising the steps:

attaching an inner liner, a reinforcing rubber, and a carcass ply rubber on a toroidal shaping core of a shaping body which has the shaping core, a bladder stored inside the periphery of the shaping core, and a detachable folding core enclosing the bladder when it is stored;

forming, thereafter, a carcass by attaching a continuous cord while radially displacing it back and forth between the both bead portions at a given circumferential pitch P; and

then folding ends of the carcass around the beads by removing the folding core and expanding the bladder stored therein.